

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2003
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 526

Introduced by Assembly Member Chan

February 18, 2003

An act to add *and repeal* Section 2107.5 ~~to~~ of the Elections Code, relating to registration.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 526, as amended, Chan. Voter registration.

Under existing law, persons eligible to vote must register to vote no later than 14 days prior to election day.

This bill would permit Alameda County to establish a pilot program, for elections held entirely in the county, under which persons could register and vote at specified locations during a 14-day period up to and including election day. The bill would require the Secretary of State to study the program to report its effect on voter turnout and voter fraud, and to assess its feasibility for other jurisdictions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2107.5 is added to the Elections Code,
2 to read:

1 2107.5. (a) Alameda County is authorized to establish a pilot
2 voter registration program for local elections held entirely within
3 the county. The pilot program shall provide that, notwithstanding
4 any other provision of law, any person entitled to register to vote
5 under Section 2101 shall be permitted during the 14-day period up
6 to and including the day of the election to register and vote at the
7 office of the elections official or at satellite offices that the
8 elections official establishes for this purpose. The pilot program
9 shall end after the county has administered the pilot program for
10 two elections.

11 (b) Persons wishing to vote pursuant to this section shall, upon
12 presenting identification and proof of residence within Alameda
13 County, be entitled to vote using a regular ballot. The Secretary of
14 State shall specify acceptable identification and proof of
15 residence.

16 (c) The elections official shall notify the public of all locations
17 in Alameda County where persons eligible to vote may register
18 and vote during the 14-day period up to and including the day of
19 the election, by issuing a press release no later than 40 days before
20 election day. The press release shall state the address of all
21 locations and the date and hours that each location will be open.

22 (d) The Secretary of State shall conduct a study of elections
23 held under this pilot program to determine its impact on voter
24 turnout, to evaluate whether voting fraud occurred as a result of the
25 program, and to assess its feasibility for implementation in other
26 jurisdictions.

27 (e) If Alameda County establishes the pilot program authorized
28 by this section, that county shall be responsible for the costs of
29 implementing the pilot program.

30 (f) This section shall remain in effect only until ~~January 1, 2005~~
31 *December 31, 2007*, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later
32 enacted statute, that is enacted before ~~January 1, 2005~~ *December*
33 *31, 2007*, deletes or extends that date.